1 KAMALA D. HARRIS Board of Vocational Nursing Attorney General of California and Psychiatric Technicians 2 GLORIA A. BARRIOS Supervising Deputy Attorney General 3 M. TRAVIS PEERY Deputy Attorney General 4 State Bar No. 261887 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 5 Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-0962 6 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 Attorneys for Complainant 7 BEFORE THE 8 BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING AND PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS 9 STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 Case No. VN-2005-1571 In the Matter of the Accusation Against: 11 ANDREA KRISHNA JAMES, AKA 12 ANDREA KRISHNA ROBERTS P.O. Box 641913 ACCUSATION 13 Los Angeles, CA 90064 Vocational Nurse License No. VN 165814 14 Respondent. 15 16 Complainant alleges: 17 **PARTIES** 18 1. Teresa Bello-Jones, J.D., M.S.N., R.N. (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in 19 her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric 20 Technicians, Department of Consumer Affairs. 21 2. On or about January 14, 1994, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric 22 Technicians issued Vocational Nurse License Number VN 165814 to Andrea Krishna James, aka 23 Andrea Krishna Roberts, (Respondent). The Vocational Nurse License was in full force and 24 effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on December 31, 2011, 25 unless renewed. 26 111 27 111 28 111

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JURISDICTION

3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- 4. Section 2875 of the Business and Professions Code (Code) provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline the holder of a vocational nurse license for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with section 2875) of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act.
- 5. Section 118(b) of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated. Under section 2892.1 of the Code, the Board may renew an expired license at any time within four years after the expiration.
 - 6. Section 2878 of the Code states:

"The Board may suspend or revoke a license issued under this chapter [the Vocational Nursing Practice Act (Bus. & Prof. Code, 2840, et seq.)] for any of the following:

- "(a) Unprofessional conduct
- "
- "(j) The commission of any act involving dishonesty, when that action is related to the duties and functions of the licensee."
 - 7. Section 2878.5 of the Code states:

"In addition to other acts constituting unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter [the Vocational Nursing Practice Act] it is unprofessional conduct for a person licensed under this chapter to do any of the following:

"(a) Obtain or possess in violation of law, or prescribe, or except as directed by a licensed physician and surgeon, dentist or podiatrist administer to himself or herself or furnish or administer to another, any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, or any dangerous drug as defined in Section 4022.

"(b) Use any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, or any dangerous drug as defined in Section 4022, or alcoholic beverages, to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to himself or herself, any other person, or the public, or to the extent that the use impairs his or her ability to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by his or her license.

"

"(e) Falsify, or make grossly incorrect, grossly inconsistent, or unintelligible entries in any hospital, patient, or other record pertaining to narcotics of dangerous drugs as specified in subdivision (b)."

REGULATORY PROVISIONS

- 8. Title 16, California Code of Regulations ("CCR"), section 2518.6 states in pertinent part:
- "(a) A licensed vocational nurse shall safeguard patients'/clients' health and safety by actions that include but are not limited to the following:

"

- "(2) Documenting patient/client care in accordance with standards of the professions"
- 9. Title 16, CCR, section 2521 states in pertinent part:

"For the purposes of denial, suspension, or revocation of a license pursuant to Division 1.5 (commencing with Section 475) of the Business and Professions Code, a crime or act shall be considered to be substantially related to the qualification, functions or duties of a licensed vocational nurse if to a substantial degree it evidences present or potential unfitness of a licensed vocational nurse to perform the functions authorized by his license in a manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare. Such crimes or acts shall include but not be limited to those involving the following:

"

"(c) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision or term of Chapter 6.5, Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

15. On or about February 16, 2006, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians received a complaint from Registered Nurse Rebecca Berberian at White Memorial Medical Center (WMMC), indicating that Respondent acted strangely on duty. Respondent was asked to leave the floor and submit to a drug test, which she refused. WMMC subsequently discovered that Respondent had removed controlled substances from the automated dispensing machine but did not document administering the drugs to patients.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substances)

- 16. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2878, subdivision (a), as defined by CCR title 16, section 2521, subdivisions (c) and (f), in conjunction with section 2878.5, subdivision (a), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct for obtaining or possessing dangerous drugs in violation of law, in that during her assignment as a nurse at WMMC on February 7, 2006 and February 8, 2006, Respondent withdrew controlled substances from the automated dispensing machine but did not document administering the drugs to patients. The circumstances are as follows:
- a. On or about February 8, 2006, Respondent unlawfully possessed the controlled substance Meperidine. Respondent made withdraws of Meperidine 75mg Injection at 8:02 a.m., 4:02 p.m., 4:56 p.m., and 5:58 p.m. from the Omnicell machine for Patient "AG." There was no physician order for Meperidine for Patient "AG" and Respondent did not document administration of Meperidine to Patient "AG." This left 300mg of Meperidine unaccounted for.
- b. On or about February 8, 2006, Respondent unlawfully possessed the controlled substance Meperidine. At 9:51 a.m. Respondent withdrew Meperidine 75mg Inection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "VU." At 11:06 a.m. Respondent withdrew another Meperidine 75mg Injection from the Omnicell Machine for Patient "VU." There was a physician order for Meperidine 75mg Injection IM Q3H for Patient "VU" but Respondent did not document administration of any Meperidine to Patient "VU." This left 150mg of Meperidine unaccounted for.

- c. On or about February 8, 2006, Respondent unlawfully possessed the controlled substances Meperidine, Morphine, and Hydrocodone. At 11:05 a.m. Respondent withdrew Morphine 10mg/1ml Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "EM." At 11:39 a.m. Respondent withdrew Meperidine 75mg Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "EM." At 2:47 p.m. Respondent withdrew another Meperidine 75mg Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "EM." At 4:18 p.m. Respondent withdrew two (2) Hydrocodone/APAP/5/500mg Tabs from the Omnicell machine for Patient "EM." At 4:22 p.m. Respondent withdrew Morphine 10mg/1ml Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "EM." At 4:53 p.m. Respondent withdrew Meperidine 75mg Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "EM." There was a physician order for Morphine 10mg/1ml Injection and a physician order for Hydrocodone/APAP/5/500mg two (2) Tabs, both for Patient "EM." Respondent did not document administration of any Meperidine, Morphine, or Hydrocodone tablets to Patient "EM." This left 225mg of Meperidine, 20mg of Morphine, and two (2) Hydrocodone/APAP/5/500mg tablets unaccounted for.
- d. On or about February 8, 2006, Respondent unlawfully possessed the controlled substance Meperidine. At 12:37 p.m. Respondent withdrew Meperidine 75mg Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "VG." There was a physician order for Meperidine 75mg Injection Q3H PRN pain for Patient "VG" but Respondent did not document administration of any Meperidine to Patient "VG." This left 75mg of Meperidine unaccounted for. Patient "VG" was dishcharged from WMMC on or about January 31, 2006.
- e. On or about February 8, 2006, Respondent unlawfully possessed the controlled substance Meperidine. At 12:38 p.m. Respondent withdrew Meperidine 50mg Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "MW." There was no physician order for Meperidine for Patient "MW" and Respondent did not document administration of Meperidine to Patient "MW." This left 50mg of Meperidine unaccounted for.
- f. On or about February 8, 2006, Respondent unlawfully possessed the controlled substance Meperidine. Respondent made withdrawals of Meperidine 75mg Injection at 2:48 p.m., 3:17 p.m., and 4:00 p.m. from the Omnicell machine for Patient "RG." There was no

physician order for Meperidine for Patient "RG" and Respondent did not document administration of any Meperidine to Patient "RG." This left 225mg of Meperidine unaccounted for.

- g. On or about February 8, 2006, Respondent unlawfully possessed the controlled substance Meperidine. At 3:16 p.m. Respondent withdrew Meperidine 75mg Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "TH." There was no physician order for Meperidine for Patient "TH" and Respondent did not document administration of Meperidine to Patient "TH." This left 75mg of Meperidine unaccounted for.
- h. On or about February 8, 2006, Respondent unlawfully possessed the controlled substance Meperidine. At 5:57 p.m. Respondent withdrew Meperidine 75mg Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "MG." There was no physician order for Meperidine for Patient "MG" and Respondent did not document administration of Meperidine to Patient "MG." This left 75mg of Meperidine unaccounted for.
- i. On or about February 8, 2006, Respondent unlawfully possessed the controlled substance Meperidine. At 6:26 p.m. Respondent withdrew Meperidine 50mg Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "JW." At 6:41 p.m. Respondent withdrew Meperidine 75mg Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "JW." There was a physician order for Meperidine 50mg "as directed" for Patient "JW". Respondent did not document administration of Meperidine to Patient "JW." This left 125mg of Meperidine unaccounted for.
- j. On or about February 8, 2006, Respondent unlawfully possessed the controlled substance Meperidine. At 6:43 p.m. Respondent withdrew Meperidine 75mg Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "ER." There was no physician order for Meperidine for Patient "ER" and Respondent did not document administration of Meperidine to Patient "ER." This left 75mg of Meperidine unaccounted for.
- k. On or about February 8, 2006, Respondent unlawfully possessed the controlled substance Meperidine. At 1:48 p.m. Respondent withdrew Meperidine 75mg Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "JE." There was no physician order for Meperidin for Patient "JE"

and Respondent did not document administration of Meperidine to Patient "JE." This left 75mg of Meperidine unaccounted for.

- l. On or about February 7, 2006, Respondent unlawfully possessed the controlled substance Hydromorphone. At 12:29 p.m. Respondent withdrew Hyrdromorphone 2mg Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "EG." At 6:54 p.m. Respondent withdrew another Hydromorphone 2mg Injection from the Pyxsis machine for Patient "EG." There was a physician order for Hydromorphone 2mg Injection IM Q4h PRN pain for Patient "EG." Respondent did document the administration of Hydromorphone 2mg Injection to Patient "EG" at 1:23 p.m. but there is no documentation of administration for the second dose Respondent withdrew from the Omnicell. This left 2mg of Hydromorphone unaccounted for.
- m. On or about February 7, 2006, Respondent unlawfully possessed the controlled substance Meperidine. Respondent made withdraws of Meperidine 75mg Injection at 1:37 p.m., 3:52 p.m., 5:50 p.m., 6:18 p.m., and 6:48 p.m. from the Omnicell machine for Patient "MM." There was no physician order for Meperidine for Patient "MM" and Respondent did not document administration of any Meperidine to Patient "MM." This left 375mg of Meperidine unaccounted for.
- n. On or about February 7, 2007, Respondent unlawfully possessed the controlled substance Meperidine. Respondent made withdraws of Meperidine 50mg Injection at 3:21 p.m., 5:51 p.m., 6:19 p.m., and 6:47 p.m. from the Omnicell machine for Patient "MP." There was a physician order for Meperidine 50mg Injection Q3h PRN for Patient "MP" but Respondent did not document administration of any Meperidine to Patient "MP." This left 200mg of Meperidine unaccounted for.
- o. On or about February 7, 2006, Respondent unlawfully possessed the controlled substances Meperidine and Hydromorphone. At 3:49 p.m. Respondent withdrew Meperidine 50mg Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "AB." At 3:50 p.m. Respondent withdrew a second Meperidine 50mg Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "AB." There was no physician order for Meperidine for Patient "AB" and Respondent did not document administration of Meperidine for Patient "AB." At 3:51 p.m. Respondent withdrew

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Hydromorphone 2mg Injection from the Omnicell machine for Patient "AB." At 7:56 p.m. Respondent withdrew a second Hydromorphone 2mg Injection from the Omnicell for Patient "AB." There was a physician order for Hydromorphone 2mg Injection Q4H PRN Pain for Patient "AB" but Respondent did not document administration of Hydromorphone to Patient "AB." This left 100mg of Meperidine and 4mg of Hydromorphone unaccounted for.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unlawful Use of Controlled Substances)

17. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2878, subdivision (a), as defined by CCR title 16, section 2521, subdivisions (c) and (f), in conjunction with section 2878.5, subdivision (b), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct for use of dangerous drugs in violation of law. The circumstances are that on or about February 6, 2006, during Respondent's assignment as a nurse at WMMC, Respondent was observed by Registered Nurse Louella Miguel and Registered Nurse Grace Plarizan to be standing next to the Omnicell machine with a bleeding hand. Respondent also had unsteady balance while washing her hands, an unsteady gait, and appeared to be drowsy. When asked what happened Respondent replied that she pricked herself with a needle.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Falsifying Entries in Hospital or Patient Records)

- 18. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2878, subdivision (a), as defined by CCR title 16, section 2518.6, subdivision (a)(2), in conjunction with section 2878.5, subdivision (e), for falsifying entries in hospital and patient records pertaining to narcotics or dangerous drugs. The circumstances are as follows:
- a. On or about February 7, 2006, at 2:05 p.m., Respondent withdrew two (2) Hydrocodone/APAP/5/500mg Tab from the Omnicell machine for Patient "JG." There was a physician order for Hydrocodone/APAP5/500mg Tab 2 tabs Q6H PRN Pain for Patient "JG." Respondent documented the administration of Hydrocodone 2 tablets to Patient "JG" at 1:55 p.m., which was 10 minutes before she withdrew the medication from the Omnicell machine.

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- b. On or about February 7, 2006 at 2:06 p.m, Respondent withdrew Two (2) Hydrocodone/APAP/5/500mg Tab from the Omnicell machine for Patient "MP." There was a physician order for Hydrocodone/APAP/5/500mg Tab 2 tablets Q3H PRN Pain for Patient "MP." Respondent documented the administration of Hydrocodone 2 tablets to Patient "MP" at 1:58 p.m., which was 8 minutes before she withdrew the medication from the Omnicell machine.
- c. On or about February 7, 2006 at 6:16 p.m., Respondent withdrew 2 Hydrocodone/APAP/5/500mg Tab from the Omnicell machine for Patient "RF." There was a physician order for Hydrocodone/APAP/5/500mg Tab 2 tablets Q6H PRN Pain for Patient "RF." Respondent documented the administration of Hydrocodone to Patient "RF" at 6:10 p.m., which was 6 minutes before she withdrew the medication from the Omnicell machine.
- d. Complainant refers to and incorporates all the allegations contained in paragraph 16, subparagraphs a-o, as though set forth fully.

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Commission of Acts Involving Dishonesty)

19. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2878, subdivision (j), for committing acts involving dishonesty. Complainant refers to and incorporates all the allegations contained in paragraph 16, subparagraphs a-o, and paragraph 18, subparagraphs a-c, as though set forth fully.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking or suspending Vocational Nurse License Number VN 165814, issued to Andrea Krishna James, aka Andrea Krishna Roberts;
- Ordering Andrea Krishna James, aka Andrea Krishna Roberts, to pay the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3; and

1	3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.
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3	DATED Avant 10 2011
4	DATED: August 19, 2011 TERESA BELLO-JONES, J.D., M.S.N., R.N. Executive Officer
5	Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians
6	Department of Consumer Affairs State of California
7	Complainant
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